



February 19, 2008

Vol. 13, No. 12

## Atlantis to return to Earth as Endeavour waits to fly to space

## Crew change on space station prepares for work in new lab



### ◆ Shuttle Update:

Space shuttle **Atlantis** is scheduled to land at Kennedy tomorrow morning. NASA managers will evaluate

weather conditions at Kennedy before permitting Atlantis to return to Earth. Wednesday landing opportunities at Kennedy are at 9:07 a.m. and 10:42 a.m. EST. There are additional opportunities at 12:12 p.m. and 1:47 p.m. at Edwards Air Force Base in California, a backup landing site. The shuttle's other backup site for landing, White Sands Space Harbor, N.M., will not be activated Wednesday.

Two hours after landing, NASA officials will hold a briefing to discuss the mission. The participants will be NASA Administrator Michael Griffin, NASA Associate Administrator for Space Operations Bill Gerstenmaier and NASA Space Shuttle Launch Director Mike Leinbach.

After touchdown, the astronauts will undergo physical examinations and meet with their families. Some crew members are expected to hold a news conference

no earlier than 4.5 hours after returning to Earth.

Getting ready for the next mission, STS-123, space shuttle **Endeavour** completed rollout to Launch Pad 39A (see below). The journey from the Vehicle Assembly Building began at 11:24 p.m. on Feb. 17, approximately 30 minutes before its scheduled start time due to favorable weather conditions. The shuttle arrived at the launch pad at 4:45 a.m. Monday and was hard down at 6:22 a.m.



◆ **ISS Update:** Atlantis spent eight days, 16 hours, seven minutes docked to the space station on mission STS-122. The station's Commander Peggy Whitson continued the tradition of ringing the station's bell as the shuttle departed Monday. Astronaut Dan Tani returns to Earth aboard Atlantis, having spent 116 days at the station, 107 days as the Expedition 16 flight engineer. Tani is being replaced by European Space Agency astronaut Leopold Eyharts, who arrived at the station with the STS-122 crew. Eyharts will finish commissioning the Columbus laboratory.

### ■ NASA Science Update — On

Wednesday evening, the full moon over the Americas will turn a delightful shade of red and possibly turquoise, too. It's a total lunar eclipse — the last one until December 2010. Read more about it at [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/13feb\\_lunareclipse.htm?list947891](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/13feb_lunareclipse.htm?list947891).

### ■ KEA 14 Lunch and Learn: Software Engineering Process Models – CMMI + Unified Process —

The KSC Engineering Academy will host an overview of the Capability Maturity Model Integration and the Unified Process. Dr. Ali Shaykhian will present from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday in the HQ Building/Conference Room 3225. These two software engineering process models are most used by government agencies and various industries. The presentation will also discuss the pitfalls of the current software life cycles and present an alternative approach of product-driven software life cycles, which is most suitable for building critical software systems.

Feel free to bring your lunch to this "Lunch and Learn." There is limited seating, however, so please arrive early. This KEA event, as all others, will be video taped and placed on the KEA Web site for future use. NASA and contractor personnel are invited to attend this event.

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**Did You Know?** Google began as a research project by Stanford Ph.D. student Larry Page in 1996! He and Sergey Brin created a search engine that they called BackRub, which analyzed the "back links" pointing to a given web site. The domain name came in 1997, and the business was incorporated in 1998. A decade ago the site was handling 10,000 search queries a day, and in 2006 that number was 9,000,000!